

MINUTES FROM COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF NORTH CANTON
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2016

1. Call to Order

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: I'd like to call to order the Council Meeting, Monday, April 11, 2016, 7:02pm.

2. Opening Prayer – Reverend Mel Lindberg, United Methodist Church.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Clerk, please call the roll?

Roll call found the following council members in attendance: Cerreta, Foltz, Fonte, Griffith, Kiesling and Peters. Thus having 6 in attendance.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. May I have a motion and a second to excuse Member Werren?

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to excuse Councilwoman Werren.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Before we go to consideration of minutes here, I want to welcome Tobias. He is an exchange student with us. He's in the 8th month of exchange program from Germany and he's staying with the Paschkes. I'll give the floor to you if you want, if you have anything to, don't mean to put you on the spot. But is there anything that you would like to say or any comments?

TOBIAS: I would like to thank the community that I'm having such an awesome time here. I've heard from other students that say they're not as welcome in the communities as I am. But I'm just having a great time here. I'm having a fantastic high school, I'm having a great community with an even better host family. And I'm just happy that you, the people here make my year just perfect. Thank you very much.

5. Consideration

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. May I have a motion and a second to approve as presented:

Council Meeting Minutes: March 28, 2016

Special Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes: March 28, 2016

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Motion to approve as presented.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to approve the above minutes.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, thank you. At this time we have recognition of visitors, just a few reminders. There'll be a five minute time limit per speaker. There'll be no back and forth between folks at the dais and the podium. Once you've used your allotted time or have completed your statement please return to your seat. If you have any questions we still have the Rules of Council on the dais, Mary Beth, is that correct? (Yes) Okay, alright very good, at this time, if you wish to address council please step forward state your name and address.

6. Recognition of Visitors

M J ALBACETE: Known in the community as Al, 515 Glenwood SW, here in North Canton. I was the Executive Director Emeritus at the Canton Museum of Art, and now I'm an adjunct professor at Kent State University Stark. I'm here tonight with my worthy assistant, my wife Pat, sitting in the back here. I just wanted to take a few minutes with some good news, pleasant news to provide a quick overview of our activities since our last visit to city council. We've done three major Geo Art's sessions at Kent Stark involving over 200 elementary and middle school students from area schools. Using our rapidly diminishing supply of our recycled cardboard triangles, squares, pentagons and hexagons. The last session just this Friday we invited a representative of our recycle cardboard supplier and suffice to say he was extremely impressed with this educational activity. And how responsive these students were as well as the teachers who are present to observe their students actually working on these tactile projects. So I'd like to leave each one of you with one our calling cards, it's a miniature icosahedron. We were going to give you a kit to build them yourself, but that would take more than the 5 minutes. All of these were made on my

own worktable which will serve as a reminder of our impending waste management grant that is still under consideration. By the way, it is our understanding that the state ethics policy allows us to leave these with you since they were built at no expense to you. And the monetary value if you need this for a tax report is under 25 cents per piece. And we don't have quite enough, but if you want we can make a couple extra ones. Does anyone have any questions? You throw them around the house, they're very good for playing whatever, or you can take them give them to your children or grandchildren and take them to school or leave them for the teacher for the school. But they're fascinating, and a very important thing about these projects, they are tactile functions. The students have to learn geometry, the principles of geometry to create these. They have to actually design and make them. And then they graduate from this size, this is just a demo for you. The ones they make have a one foot module, each edge of that piece there is 4 inches, imagine that at 1 foot. And then some of the others that really get quite large, in fact, some of them are so large that the students before they can complete them, they can actually get inside them and they like to be photographed, you know, with one piece missing to get their picture. So it's been very exciting, it's really quite an adventure. And the next time we do one I'll extend an invitation to all of you if you'd like to come and watch. I'd be happy to have you. Okay, thank you.

MAYOR HELD: Very impressive.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Anyone else wishing to address council, please step forward, state your name and address.

GLEN SAYLOR: 340 Reed Ave NW. I've come tonight to voice my opposition to the removal of the city's designation as the Dogwood City. At last week's council meeting, it seemed that most of the councilmembers didn't seem to think that the Dogwood was a good representation of our city and who we are. However, I think the Dogwood is an excellent symbol of who we are. The Dogwood tree is a small tree that grows to around 30 feet tall. Compare that to an Oak tree that grows 3 to 4 times that size. The Dogwood size is in many ways symbolic of the small size of our city. However, don't let the size of the Dogwood tree fool you. The wood of the Dogwood is stronger than that of the might Oak. This is a symbol of the strong institution such as our schools, police and fire and our churches in North Canton. The wood of the Dogwood is one of the hardest woods of any tree in the United States or Canada. Just as the wood of the Dogwood can withstand dents and dings, so our city has been able to withstand the dents and dings such as the loss of the Hoover Company. The Dogwood blooms forth with beautiful white, pink and red flowers in the spring, and the leaves turn vibrant red, purple in the fall. This is symbolic of the beautiful neighborhoods and parks in North Canton. The dogwood also provides fruit for winter birds and it's said that Civil War doctors used tea from Dogwood bark to treat soldiers suffering from Malaria. This is the symbol of the charity of our neighbors in North Canton who go out of their way to help their fellow neighbors. Contrary to what was said at last week's meeting, there are a large number of Dogwood trees in North Canton. I have one growing in my backyard and I know a number of neighbors do as well. Dogwoods are an excellent trees to plant in our residential environment and their size and shape make them good choices near utility lines. The city should undertake more active role in encouraging the planting of Dogwood trees in our city, including free Dogwood giveaway programs. Unfortunately, the City of North Canton has dropped the ball on marketing ourselves as the Dogwood City. Take a look at some of our neighboring cities, Alliance, the Carnation City, has the Carnation parade and festival. In the same way Louisville, the Constitution town, has its Constitution parade and festival. I cannot recall North Canton having any kind of event like this. And what it is proposed for the new designation for the City of North Canton? The new designation is that isn't going to be one. Hopefully, the City didn't pay too much to the marketing firm that came up with that idea. If I were a stranger coming into North Canton for the first time, North Canton, the Dogwood City sounds to me a lot more welcoming than simply North Canton. My second issue is that this push is coming from some master plan committee. A committee whose members I don't know and never voted for nor do they necessarily represent the views of the North Canton citizenry. Perhaps someone tonight can explain when and how this master committee solicited public comment on this issue. I think it is unconscionable for this council to pass this resolution if the public has not had an adequate opportunity to weigh in. The entire community deserves an opportunity to decide whether the Dogwood represents who we are and not just a few select individuals. I find it ironic that one of the main goals of the master plan is to protect and promote greenspace, which I believe includes trees. Yet we're now going to remove the Dogwood designation. In conclusion I'm not sure whether our fathers and grandfathers realized how well the Dogwood represented our city when they passed the resolution in 1963. But whether it was intentional or just blind luck it doesn't really matter. The Dogwood perfectly symbolizes our small city, our strong schools and city services, our resiliency, our beautiful neighborhoods, our caring citizens and everything that makes North Canton a desirable place to work and live. The Dogwood represents our city as well as it did in 1963, if not better. I would ask that this resolution be tabled until the city gets further input from the community as a whole as to whether they want to continue to be known as the Dogwood City. Thank you.

CHUCK OSBORNE: 307 Fairview Street SE, North Canton, Ohio. It is pretty well accepted in case law that courts will rarely meddle in the legislative actions and decisions made by elected bodies of city governments as there is the presumption that represented governments are acting on behalf of their constituency. In 2005, while in the midst of major renovation to our home, my wife and I became aware of legislation working its way through city council modifying or expanding an existing program called Community Reinvestment Area. The program provided an abatement of taxes on the increase valuation of property resulting from improvements to existing housing stock in the city. Mindful, that a \$150,000 in improvements to our home was a substantial investment and that we were indeed making improvements to the city's existing housing stock, my wife and I enrolled in the City's CRA program. The program first implemented in 1999 was a legislative action of our elected representatives. Who were we to question the legislative action of North Canton City Council? Does anyone on city council believe the program has served our community in a positive manner over the 17 years the CRA program has existed in North Canton? And now this council wants to expand the CRA and make it a citywide program. I do not believe this program is serving the city and has not since its inception. Was my home blighted and deserving of a tax abatement after all that was the

purpose of the program? No it was not blighted. Did my wife and I need a financial incentive to improve our property 11 years ago? Again, the answer is no. There are 7 other participants currently receiving tax abatements in the City's CRA program. And I can without hesitation that they also did not need a financial incentive for the investments that they made in their properties. Six of the properties receiving tax abatements are corporations. Five of the 8 properties receiving tax abatements are for new construction. Two of the property owners receiving tax abatements are well known individuals who are multi-millionaires in our community. North Canton CRA program is nothing but a tax giveaway pure and simple. The taxes that you are abating are revenue desperately needed by the North Canton City School District. On Sunday, April 3, 2016 the Repository ran a front page story titled Rebuilding the Vikings Coffers. This story is a prelude to what is looming for the North Canton City Schools. The abatement of property taxes for improvements at most should be limited to existing housing structures as was the original purpose of program. And with only two homeowners in 17 years utilizing the program to improve existing housing with neither owner needing an incentive to do so it is quite obvious that the entire program is an utter failure. In the spreadsheet I have passed around I have tallied up the cost of the abatements to the city and the school district. For 2015, there has been a loss of nearly a \$100,000 in tax collections. Two-thirds of that total would have gone to the schools. A tally of the foregone taxes over the full term of each of the 8 abatements totals \$1,346,345.00. This loss will rise as property values increase over the years. The CRA is nothing more than a tax dodge that has predominately benefited corporate interest and millionaires. All to the detriment of the North Canton City School District. Lastly, I want to call your attention to the abatement of taxes for the construction of a 40 unit apartment complex called Northridge Place Limited at 1303 North Main Street. This abatement is immoral and possibly illegal. It is also unfair to the taxpayers of North Canton. It is highly detrimental to the North Canton City Schools and a backlash on this abatement could very well lead to the defeat of the next school levy. I have looked for a record any council action on this abatement and have found none. Mayor Held, the terms for this particular CR abatement has resulted in foregone property taxes in 2015 of \$59,129. Over the 15 year of this abatement alone the City and North Canton City School District will have foregone over \$1 million dollars in revenue on this one abatement. If your Director of Permit and Inspection Mr. Bowles made the unilateral decision to approve this abatement and it appears he did, you should ask for his resignation. This loss of public funds on this abatement is unconscionable and can only result from malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance on the part of Mr. Bowles. Further I ask that this council reexamine many of the CR abatements currently outstanding and terminate all the tax abatements that do not result in rehabilitation of existing housing structures in the City. Mayor, I have a letter here for you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Mr. Osborne, please take your seat. Anyone else wishing to address council please step forward, state your name and address.

MIRIAM BAUGHMAN: 320 Weber Ave. I am in favor of the CRA for single family older homes that need to be upgraded to improve neighborhoods. And for single family lots where a new home could be put in an older neighborhood. I'm not in favor of developments having the CRA, \$200,000, \$300,000 homes to pay no tax for 15 years, 100% abatement. Be they a small development or the large developments. And I'm here tonight to ask a favor of you, if sometime next week before the discussion on the CRA, if you will drive down Applegrove and look at the new buildings for the assisted living, independent living complex that's being built. The buildings are up, they're not finished but the structures are up. The buildings are huge. It has to be worth multimillion dollars, those buildings. They sit right now on a piece of property directly west of the Sanctuary, they're not part of the Sanctuary, but they abut the Sanctuary and they are directly west. And you can get a good view from Applegrove. Take a look at those, see if you think that those buildings should have 100% tax abatement for 15 years. And while you're looking remember our schools need the money. And I'll say the same thing tonight that I said at the last time I spoke. Don't cheat the kids.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Anyone else wishing to address council, please step forward state your name and address.

MELANIE J ROLL: 308 Portage St. North Canton. My comments tonight are about the CRA in general, and revenue. At first blush it would seem the CRA concept is a good way to help owners of the aging housing stock in the city to make improvements on their home, and receive a tax benefit on those upgrades. However, I'm guessing the Ohio legislature could not pass up an opportunity to benefit local developers. This is an addition to decimating city schools and libraries with reduced funding the last 5 years. I know you're all aware of how cities libraries, schools have been hurt by what state government has done. Where will the needed revenue come to fund the services citizens want and expect? State government is pointing the way to local levies. So will North Canton Schools in the city ask voters for additional money? I'm guessing so. And how will those voters reconcile voting for increasing their tax bill when some businesses are getting tax abatements. North Canton has given more abatements to businesses than to homeowners. In fairness to Mr. Bowles, how can he say no to developers approaching him for these tax abatements? Perhaps you council, should look again at the zoning code to see what should be placed where. I think there can be some improvements. This country, this state, and this city must reconcile how they intend to fund government and schools. It's a problem everywhere. There is much unrest among citizens nationwide as to who the rules are benefiting. We only need to look at the primaries for the presidency to get a picture of that. Are those benefits going to the top 5% of the income group, with the rest of us expecting to make up the difference? I think so. So I'm asking you to think of how the rules are made, who they are benefiting, and what you're asking citizens in this community to fund. Myself, I have always supported all levies, during my whole voting career. Which has been long. All schools, all municipal levies, all libraries. Yes, yes, yes, yes. But something here is amiss and no one likes to see someone get away with perhaps not paying their fair share. What is being lost from the schools from some of these abatements is not a good thing. The schools cannot make that up. So I'm asking you to think about what you're doing. My second topic is North Canton income tax, which is revenue. So you have property tax which you pay, two-thirds of it mostly go to the schools which is a good thing. Some of you pay income tax here, some of you pay it wherever you work or a combination of. I'd like to know from the finance director during her report if she would tell me how does the city find the folks that need to pay income tax. If you're living in a single

home you have the water department to help you find those folks and make sure that they pay. If you're in a 60 unit apartment building, how do you find them? So I'm asking for mechanism so that everybody pays. I'm willing to pay my share, whatever it is, I'm willing to pay for tax increases if they seem reasonable. If everybody is in this together. Right now, it doesn't seem like everybody's in it together, and honestly for the first time in my life I might consider voting no for a school levy. I can't believe I'm saying that. But I am.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Anyone else wishing to address council, please step forward state your name and address. Alright, see none, oh, I'm sorry. Yes sir, please.

JOHN ARNOLD: 95 Winston Road, Akron, Ohio, 44313. Actually, I'd like to take a quick moment here to tip my cap to all of you in regards to the CRA legislation. You're taking a proactive effort and you're trying to protect our city from blight and from some economic downturn. And I think, well we all here in North Canton feel as though we're isolated from those things. But the time to act is right now to prevent that type of decline. Well, frankly, if you look at the recent passage of the Canton Comprehensive Plan, the city leaders down there I believe 30, 40 years ago if they had these tools and they had the foresight to put some of that legislation in action, I don't know that they'd be in the same situation that they currently are today. So the time right now it's really an amazing golden opportunity each of you have to really prevent that within our city. So with that being said, thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Eric, you have something?

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR BOWLES: Thank you for council's consideration. Mr. Osborne mentioned that I as housing officer for the city do not have the authorization to follow through with a real property tax exemption. I'm going to read from section 7 of our Ordinance No. 2299, "Housing officer is authorized and directed to receive applications and grant real property tax exemptions for new structures or remodeling completed after the date of the passage of this ordinance. And its further authorized and directed to make annual inspections of properties within the city's CRA for which exemptions have been granted. And to keep the housing council and the tax incentive review committee as defined below appraise revocation of the CRA tax exemption made for a lack of adequate maintenance or compliance with the CRA agreement accordance with ORC 3735.68." And just calling on the manual for the CRA program mentions that the housing officer must verify the cost and the improvements and the elements of the CRA application, if the requirements for exemption are met the housing officer shall provide the county auditor a copy of the application and certify that the improvements are exempt pursuant to the CRA program for the term designated in the CRA authorizing legislation." There is no negotiation or flexibility on the part of the housing officer. We have been operating our program correctly and in compliance with the ordinance.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Thank you for that, appreciate it.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Eric. Anyone else wishing to address council please step forward state your name and address. Okay, seeing none, we will move onto old business. May I have a motion and a second to read by title only the third reading of Ordinance No. 23 – 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to read by title only the third reading of Ordinance No. 23 – 2016.

7. Old Business

8. Ordinance No. 23 – 2016 Ordinance, Rules and Claims Committee

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Administration of the City of North Canton to seek bids for police and fire department dispatch services for the City of North Canton.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. The chairwoman is not here today, I'll defer to the vice chair Mr. Foltz, any other comment on this one.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: No, I think we've had a chance to review it. And we probably had a week to approve it as quickly as we can for legislative act.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Yeah, this is the third reading. So we've got, it's basically just authorizing...

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Right, so I'm in favor it. I make the motion that we approve the third reading.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 23 – 2016.

ORDINANCE NO. 23 – 2016 WAS PASSED BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 6 YES.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. And onto new business, may I have a motion and a second to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 33 – 2016?

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 33 – 2016.

9. New Business

10. Ordinance No. 33 – 2016

Community and Economic Development Committee

An ordinance continuing Community Reinvestment Area (“CRA”) agreements between the City of North Canton and LMD Property and Reed Funeral Home.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Chairwoman Kiesling.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Yes, anybody have any other questions regarding the two properties we spoke about, and they’re up-to-date. I motion that we adopt.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to adopt the first reading of Ordinance No. 33 – 2016.

ORDINANCE NO. 33 – 2016 WAS GIVEN FIRST READING.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, may I have a motion and a second to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 34 – 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 34 – 2016.

11. Ordinance No. 34 – 2016

Personnel and Safety Committee

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of North Canton, Ohio, to enter into a successor collective bargaining agreement between the City and the International Association of Firefighters, Local 3489, (“Firefighters’ Union”), and declaring the same to be an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. First I’d like to thank Law Director Fox, Director of Administration Grimes and Finance Director Alger for all your hard work in hammering out this agreement. Tim, do you want to make a few comments?

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: Sure, this is a new three year agreement with our fire and EMS bargaining unit. This one went through as the others did as well, because the city was looking at trying to make sure the contracts were clear to everyone that looked at those, there’s no hidden stipends anything of that nature. But it’s in line with the other ones that we’ve completed thus far. Because it’s one of the safety services one unions it provides that it can go to conciliation. And just a wrap up with that, you start with collective bargaining and if you can’t come to an agreement, if one side declares that there’s an impasse, you go to fact finding. Fact finding brings in an arbitrator and what happens there is the fact finder will let each side present it’s a lot of statistics and comparisons and at that point the fact finder makes a recommendation. But either side may reject that. And the case with this union the factfinder’s recommendation favored the city, so the union rejected it. And we went to conciliation, conciliation is much like fact finding, except instead of the recommendation, the conciliator provides a mandatory order. And what we were able to do with fire and EMS is to negotiate what that final order would be. So, as I said is in line with what we have negotiated with the other safety services unions. So I ask that you approve it without delay. The reason there is an emergency clause in there is because that’s actually provided in the state statute. You have to do it without haste. So that’s the necessity for the emergency legislation.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, well we can appreciate how long and arguent this process is, we thank you, all of you for your efforts. Any questions, concerns? Alright, with that I will accept a motion and a second to adopt the first reading of Ordinance No. 34 – 2016?

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Motion.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to adopt the first reading of Ordinance No 34 – 2016.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, may I have a motion and second to suspend the rules of council for three readings for Ordinance No. 34 – 2016?

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to suspend the rules of council for three readings for Ordinance No. 34 – 2016.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, may I have a motion and second to adopt under suspension the rules for Ordinance No. 34 – 2016?

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: So moved.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to adopt under suspension of the rules for Ordinance No. 34 – 2016.

ORDINANCE NO. 34 – 2016 WAS PASSED BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 6 YES.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, may I have a motion and second to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 35 – 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 35 – 2016.

12. Ordinance No. 35 – 2016

Street and Alley Committee

An ordinance approving, confirming, and accepting a perpetual sanitary sewer easement for the real property known as Parcel No. 10007372, by and between the City of North Canton, an Ohio charter municipal corporation ("City"), Grantee, and Charles W. & Carol J. Riegler, Grantor, and declaring the same to be an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Chairman Fonte.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: Okay, we spoke about this last week. This is a housekeeping cleanup. We found that there wasn't a perpetual agreement at the backside of Monticello, where the cul-de-sac was. So as we were cleaning up the paving work we realized that, so we want to get that taken care of its on emergency. And it's just, you know, have an access to the utilities. I move that we approve the first reading.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to adopt the first reading of Ordinance No. 35 – 2016.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, may I have a motion and a second to suspend the rules of Council for three readings for Ordinance No. 35 - 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to suspend the rules of Council for three readings for Ordinance No. 35 – 2016.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, may I have a motion and a second to adopt under suspension of the rules for Ordinance No. 35 – 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to adopt under suspension of the rules for Ordinance No. 27 – 2016.

ORDINANCE NO. 35 – 2016 WAS PASSED BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 6 YES.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, may I have a motion and second to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 36 – 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 36 – 2016.

13. Ordinance No. 36 – 2016

Finance and Property Committee

An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 14 – 2016, the East Maple (Westgate at Walsh University) Street Improvements Project, increasing the appropriation from not to exceed \$250,000.00 to not to exceed \$410,000.00, and declaring the same to be an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Chairman Griffith.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: We had a really good discussion last week, in which our city engineer did a nice job of showing what the plans were and how things are going to work. Of course, this is the first step in the big, long, wonderful process on East Maple there. We need to get it moving because obviously this is what they need to have moving in order to keep their construction process. So, are there any questions or concerns relative to the appropriation? Again, thank you, Jim, for the presentation last week. I would move its approval.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to adopt the first reading of Ordinance No. 36 – 2016.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, may I have a motion and a second to suspend the rules of Council for three readings for Ordinance No. 36 - 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to suspend the rules of Council for three readings for Ordinance No. 36 – 2016.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, may I have a motion and a second to adopt under suspension of the rules for Ordinance No. 36 – 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to adopt under suspension of the rules for Ordinance No. 36 – 2016.

ORDINANCE NO. 36 – 2016 WAS PASSED BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 6 YES.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, may I have a motion and second to read by title only the first reading of Resolution No. 1 – 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to read by title only the first reading of Resolution No. 1 – 2016.

14. Resolution No. 1 – 2016

Ordinance, Rules and Claims Committee

A resolution repealing and replacing Resolution No. 547 – 1963, designating the City of North Canton as “The Dogwood City”.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. In the absence of Chairwoman Werren, I'll turn it over to Member Cerreta.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Okay, good, couple things, we had talked about this and I wanted to just mention a few things that Glen brought up there. You described some eloquent descriptions of North Canton and that it is North Canton. Whether we're called the Dogwood City or not. We had the 2012, for over a year we had a good discussion on a lot of the master plan stuff. And one of the top things that is always brought up is, one of the first things, and even when I became council some of my friends would say "So what's in the safe, why are we called the Dogwood City?" People don't recognize North Canton as a Dogwood City or anything to do. In fact, in the master plan what most folks said is that anybody can be a Dogwood City or a Pine City, but we want to be something special. We want to be North Canton, that's who we are North Canton, not have some kind of tag line. So that is one of the things that has driven this, is the master plan and the group that came out. I do happen to agree with that, growing up here that I didn't know why we were the Dogwood City. I had mentioned this before, they're beautiful trees, I would not put them down, and I have a few trees. But they bloom two times a year and they just blend in with the rest. And we really don't want to be known as something like that. And being just North Canton seems to be a little bit you know who we are in more of a classy thing. That came up in the master plan. But he did say some really nice things, and I believe strongly that we need to move forward. We don't need to move backwards. Let's just be North Canton, move forward and make ourselves who we are. So, in my opinion of this, I'm going along with the master plan folks that have put this together. And I'd to move a motion to continue with the second reading. Any other discussions, first?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Yeah, before you ask for that motion, some of the folks in the audience that may not be aware of how the committee was put together and who was comprised of. Because there was a comment made that you don't some shadow organization that I don't vote for and whatever? Could you shed some light on who they are?

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Well, it was put together mostly by the chamber, so it had nothing to do with us as a City or government in any kind. The chamber pretty much, and then the group came together and they looked at different sections of the City. We had people from the school committee, we had people from chamber, businesses, library. So it was a good cross section of our city. There was, they tried not to leave different sections out, most of it was business to organizations, whether it be Rotary, Lions, and that type of thing. And I believe that's how they kind of took this. And we had a couple, I think Marcia and I were the folks that were representing the city. And outside of that, then there were other folks that were invited in and we had no real power to have those in or not. They were chosen by the chamber basically, and the folks that were on the main committee.

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: There was a couple public meetings at least at Walsh University. They had set up sections and displays and so forth.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Right, people could come in, they were broken up into groups. And I remember vividly, because I agreed with it, and this came up not only this time but the last time they did it. What was that called? The mag of North Canton which was, oh maybe 5 years before that. That also came up at that time. So it's something that has been coming up and you know the present people now really don't understand it. And don't know why. And really don't really care to be a Dogwood City or not. They want to live in North Canton, which is a great place to live, learn, work and play. That's kind of the tag line. So that's the direction that's I know of. And I don't see any down side to it, I appreciate all the things that were said of our city. And you know, if you get online, the marketing, whatever the marketing group was, whatever they did and you get online look to put your business somewhere and you see someone called the Dogwood City. I don't know if that drives people here, the things that drive us here is our schools, our safety and all the stuff that we have. Not the fact that we have Dogwoods and we're going to bloom. In fact, we probably have more Pear trees now than Dogwoods. So, that's as far, any other discussion, that's as far as I know of the matter.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: Well, we're going to do three readings on this.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Right, we can have a good discussion.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So there'll be plenty of opportunity for people to participate in the discussion which is important. So...

COUNCILMAN FONTE: I was just going to say that you know, whatever you call it, Carnation, Dogwood, Constitution, anything it has to be whatever it is it has to be promoted so that it's engrained in the minds and the bodies of the people. So you know, I know everybody thinks that North Canton, not that we're better than anybody else, but it's a nice little 6 mile area of paradise in the sense that you know we have the great services, you know, it's convenient we have good stock, convenient location and good overall. So, and the schools are awesome. So I'm real happy about it.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: I agree, there should be other public comment on it. We'll have 2 more readings and everybody can weigh in. And I enjoy Dogwoods too, you know, they're a good tree and hopefully we be planting, we'll still have Dogwood Pool. We're not renaming existing parks, in my opinion, or pools or other structures. With that said, we'll welcome more public comment on it.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: So, motion.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to adopt the first reading of Resolution No. 1 – 2016.

RESOLUTION NO. 1 – 2016 WAS GIVEN FIRST READING.

15. Reports – Council:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, reports, Member Fonte.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: Okay, I have an important meeting I'd like to get on the public record; which is its short order so the Zimber Ditch. There's going to be an important update on April 21st at 6:00pm. And I believe, I'm not sure if I know what day that is. Does anybody know what the day the 21st is? (Thursday) Okay, so April 21st at 6:00pm, it's open to the public. We have an important update. We'll have Representative Schuring there, the county engineer, Stark Parks and I would welcome the public as well as all the officials. We'll have some big news. And I'd highly recommend being there. And Mary Beth, if you could mail out to the surrounding neighbors of that as soon as possible, if you could. We've done that before, just so everybody's invited. Any questions? Okay. (Where is it?) Civic center, thank you. North Canton Civic Center, the 21st of April at 6:00pm. Get some good information. That's all, thank you

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Member Kiesling.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: No report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Member Griffith.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: Glen, I would echo, I thought you did a great job of eloquently describing our community. And I think what you described is a great thing. I was reminded, thanks to Pastor Mel, he was here too, of that old Sunday school description of the song I'm not going to sing it, but the church is not a steeple, the church is not a resting house, the church is the people. Another words, you know, to quote the barge "a rose by any other name". So I think as we have our discussion about community, I think what we can be proud of what we're talking about is, is the things that really are what makes North Canton as opposed to some other identity. Identity is North Canton, so I think that's great. And you described it eloquently. So thanks to you for that. As we all know our finance director has announced her retirement, and so we are in the process of finding a replacement for her. Which will not be an easy thing with certainty. And so we have pulled together a committee and I think we've got the advertisement out too. Initially the committee will include myself, Member Peters President Peters, and Member Werren and we have two folks from the outside who have knowledge in the accounting world Mike Myers with the County Auditor's Office and Ron Manse, who's a CPA but is with Walsh right now. So again, two people who can give us an external and particular accounting prospective on the process as well. So if you have people who know or have expressed an interest feel free to contact any of us or submit an application through the process. So, that's what I've got.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Member Cerreta?

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Couple things that were come up with the stuff that was mentioned. I think I mentioned the one about the Dogwood City, somebody mentioned the fact that what was it the Sanctuary grant. Is that what it called for the assisting living place over there? Okay, so help us understand here, there was nothing there before, there were taxes or what they are. Now you put something there, then the taxes get rated at that point. Is that correct? What's that?

COUNCILMAN FONTE: Within a year.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Within a year. So the taxes get, and then from there on the next so many years is when the rebates or the tax exempt takes over. Right, so you know there was nothing there before. So once something is there then it's an increase in the tax value, so the schools do get something out of something put in there that they did not have there in the first place. So I want to make sure that I understand that and everybody else understands that about how this program works here. So there is something to these programs, not only for the new, the old stuff which we want to improve. Which is really the whole basis of the whole thing. And also so from some new stuff that could possibly put in certain areas right there. So the other thing, as reports, last week, busy week met with the superintendent and the district officers with Eric. We're still going to continue to have good connection, good communication on what's going on there. Also, met with President Jusseaume of Walsh last week, and put together, you know, with all the things that are going to be going on out there with the university district, we want to make sure our communication is as better than it ever was. And not only for that, but for a lot of the things that we want to do down the road. Walsh is like 1 and 2 for us as far as either income in or people that work in the City. So we want to make sure, now they've asked, and I've asked Councilwoman Werren, because that's in her ward to be in that. And then any other folks, we're going to look at once a quarter for sure, we're just going to meet with President Jusseaume and his group and see, you know, how things are going, any needs or what's going to happen out there. We want to make sure that everybody's aware of what's going out, what we're in charge of, what they're in charge of. So there's no lack of community. So good meeting there. They're very excited about all that and so are we. And outside of that, I think that's all I have.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Member Foltz.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Yes, thank you, couple comments. One, I wanted to talk about Eric Bowles. Mayor Rice had the foresight to hire an excellent economic and community development person who had a wealth of experience. And Mayor Held had the intelligence to keep him on his staff. And I think he's done nothing but excellent things for North Canton. So I appreciate your hard work. It's been a pleasure through the years working with you. I know we're striving to be a better community with housing and attracting businesses. And that's all Eric did here was use the tools in the toolbox that he had to bring something into North Canton. He took a negative, in fact, everybody knows that Mobile Home Park was a terrible situation and I felt sorry for some of the residents that lived there. There was no way I could help them. And I think if it's every going to be proved in that situation this was the time to do it. We turned that completely around and if there was some tax abatement on it, so be it. I don't agree with it for new construction everywhere in the City, but I think that, that fulfilled the purpose there of turning that blighted area completely around. And a lot of those residents had to be relocated to my knowledge and hopefully they found a better place to live than where they were. Because it really was a terrible situation for everybody involved. Had a lot of calls on it and I went over there quite often. I felt kind of helpless with what to do with it because it was private property. But it all worked out I think and I think that's something we need to realize here when we're discussing things. So Eric, I want to compliment you on all your hard work. And I think this continued discussion about community reinvestment areas are something that needs to continue to happen. I think we're going to get this where it needs to go. This dialogue is good, it's good you know to look and see what our possibilities are, what our revisions can be with the existing ordinances as they are. And I think our law director is going to weigh in on that and provide some insight there that maybe we can do a better job of how we look at these properties in the future. Obviously, it should be for the older neighborhoods first and for residential first, in my opinion. But I'm not against some renovation of apartment complexes, I'm just not for building new ones everywhere on existing properties. I think there's enough incentive with our great city as it is to fulfill those needs. I'm after the rehabs within the neighborhoods. And the small, the new homes and the single family lots in the neighborhoods. That said, also I want to talk about Earth Week, obviously it was in, I think it was in the Neighborhood News. But the library's doing a great job and I think even the Solid Waste District is weighing in on this. Dave, maybe you can talk about it too. But this weekend they're starting their spring market for like home foods or green foods for local markets, producers. We're having a recycling fair, bring in some of your older garden equipment you don't need or want and there's actually an electronic and battery drop off. I don't have all the information, I do have some postcards I picked up at the library. But it is on the back of North Neighborhood News. If you're looking to dispose of some of those things, that's where it needs to happen. It's right here in our backyard. So look into it, it's a very good thing, this kind of ties in there's going to be a clean-up at Price Park with the Tom Todd Organization the 23rd which is two weeks, one week from Saturday. And then Georganne, my wife put this together, just to have a print out of our North Canton clean-up day. So anybody that's interested hopefully we can put it on our website, I talked to Doug Lane he did put something in there. We'll get copies out to the public. But hope we have a good participation with anybody that wants to get involved. It's just not doing it that day, I think all residents and business owners should have pride and clean up through that week. Take some time during the spring, do what you can for your properties. And then anybody else that wants to get involved it will be Saturday, April 30th from 8:00am to 10:00am. We'll meet right down at the City Hall door on the west side of the parking lot. I'll be involved with that. And I'm still going to have some forms that I want our law director to review before we go out as a community and help clean up our beautiful North Canton City. Excuse me?

COUNCILMAN FONTE: You bringing doughnuts?

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: If somebody wants to bring doughnuts, I'm sure they won't be turned down. Okay, thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, thank you. And Member Foltz, I'm glad you mentioned that. Eric Bowles does very good work for us. One of the hardest working guys I think I've ever met, heart's in the right place. We appreciate all your efforts. So, thank you very much. And a few housekeeping measures. I'm going to need a motion and a second to move and I don't want to steal the Mayor's thunder, but we have the State of the City address April 25th in conjunction with I think Treasurer Tolson is going to be doing for the schools. So we need to move that legislative meeting to the 18th which is next Monday. And then we'll do a dual meeting, we'll do the legislative first, committee following. And that's on the 18th next Monday. I need a motion and a second to move that?

COUNCILMAN FONTE: At 7:00pm?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Yes.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: I'll make a motion to change the date for our council meeting to go in line with our committee meeting.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to hold the Council Meeting and the Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, April 18, 2016 beginning at 7:00pm.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: And secondly, the Planning Commission at their last meeting approved the vacation or not approved recommended the vacation of a portion of Orchard Avenue NE and Witwer NE. We need to schedule a public hearing. And six weeks out I'm looking at May 23rd that would be a Monday. That would be a legislative...

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: Probably about 15 minutes prior to the regular meeting.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Yeah, 15 minutes.

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: Yes, sir.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: Do we get the revisions of what they did? How they modified it from what it was before?

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: It hasn't come yet.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: Okay, I'll be anxious to see that.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, so that will be May 23rd the public hearing for the vacation of Orchard and Witwer, 6:45pm. Director of Law.

14. Reports:

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: Thank you for passing the legislation to permit the city to enter into the bargaining agreement with fire and EMS. I would be remiss if I didn't recognize them as well as our other bargaining units, police, services, water treatment plant. I think that's one of the major reasons why people come to North Canton in addition to the other ones that were mentioned. Are the terrific services that the city provides to its residents, and fire and EMS is just one of those. So thank your for that. And kudos as well for Eric Bowles, he has one of the most difficult jobs I think there is in the City. When you say who do you call about a housing issue or something needs to be cleaned up or I don't like the look of that area, something of that nature. We direct them to Eric to handle it for us. So, it's kind of one of those thankless jobs. You don't notice it once perhaps once it's cleaned up unless you're keeping an eye on it, or he takes care of before it's presented to you. So just wanted to piggyback on that. Thanks.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Director of Finance.

FINANCE DIRECTOR ALGER: This week is the full last week for income tax. So make sure you get your income tax in. We are getting traffic pickup. To answer Melanie, some of your concerns, we use every avenue that we can to identify the individuals from the utility department, to an ordinance that's passed Ordinance No. 191.12 which is rental properties. And that requires the owner to identify the resident that's to the address and the name. So that comes to the tax department. We also any new businesses that come in, Eric Bowles, under that other hat, notifies all commercial, industry, anybody that comes in, gives a form that has to come in through us. We communicate with other cities, if there's a refund, we communicate back and forth, and that lets us know. And finally we use the Ohio filing list. When we go with the Regional Income Tax Authority they will also do the federal level. So that will allow us even more access. And then I just wanted to let council know the state auditor has to audit OPERS and we were pulled as one of the cities to audit. Lucky us. But, once in, they said once we get an audit it's about 1 in 10 years that we'll get another one. We will be charged a minimum amount of \$492. That I didn't agree with, but hey. Everything went smooth, and so I thank the payroll master for allowing that to make it smooth. It was a little difficult, because we had three people in that year, and we also two different software systems. So it, little bit of hiccup, but it went through. And we got pretty smooth done. And so I thank Shanna and the finance department. That's it.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Director of Administration.

DIRECTOR GRIMES: Our electric aggregation process is moving along. The PUCO has certified us as of Friday, we hope to have a price to put out and people being able, if they wish to get into that and probably turn the electric on June or July. So that process will speed up here shortly, and we'll get some things out. But we've got another small little hurdle to work out on some wording, and then we'll be able to move on that. If I was remiss, I didn't give you a notice but we are collaborating with some Walsh students too. They want to come here and make a presentation at some point. So if you didn't get that email, I'll get it to you. It's been sitting in my inbox if I didn't get it to you. But Mr. Davis works with them, and they do somethings for us too and collaborate that way. Working on a maybe a, the contract extension for the Kimble, our preliminary survey results is really good for that company. But we'll try to work out some things. The issue I have right now, is recyclable costs are down. So I'm trying to work through that. We did just bid out a new cleaning contract for city buildings that came back in our favor. Also the person just happened to get it, low bid is a North Canton City resident. And I know it's a business, so that was nice to see on top of the low bid for me. We do have 2 full time positions open in the service center. We just put another one out on the website today. We had the other one out for the last couple of weeks. These are due to some past retirements and so we have got 2 full time jobs out there. People can look on the internet, we also have been advertising them in the local papers too. So, but if you know anybody tell them to make sure they get an application in. Eric, I'm glad to have Eric on the staff. I'm lucky to have Eric on the staff, he's a hard worker. Not only is he a smart guy, but he cares, he's very compassionate about what he does. He doesn't make any decisions lightly. So he's always, you call him, you can call him any time of the day and time of night and you know, he's there. So, you know, and so I appreciate him and I just wanted to publicly say that, he's a good person on our staff. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, sir. Mr. Mayor?

MAYOR HELD: Yes, first off Mr. Albacete, this is fascinating. I, you know, I'm sitting here thinking, if you gave me the tools and you made the precise cuts and gave me the glue I still haven't figured out how it go together. On one, let alone all of these. So, you did put these together yourself, right? (I did indeed) Yeah, this is like an example of true diligence and

persistence. So thank you for bringing these up. And I'm going to keep this on my desk. And then also John Schneider, our former council president, in the back of the room there. Welcome, thanks for coming back.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: John, how's the volume back there? (Good) Okay.

MAYOR HELD: Just following up on those figures back there. And then also we have the spring clean-up. And the North Canton Library is going to be hosting an Eways collection which you know, I mean this great to have in the City. Its' really nice that they're championing that. They did apply for a grant, as a number of other communities throughout the Stark, Tuscarawas and Wayne County did to the Solid Waste District. So whenever you have a community that is willing to collect the waste, because it does require a lot of work. You know, we can assist them with that and so they're going to be doing one right here in the City of North Canton. And also Doug for, Doug Foltz for heading up the spring clean-up. You know, it's amazing over the years when you look at what makes North Canton great. And its two things that it comes down to, #1 it's the people that live in the city and the people who work in the city. And really it sounds like a very simply goal, but its like people want a city that is safe and that is clean. And so when you look at our police, fire and EMS departments, I mean, you know, every one of those departments had over 90% good to excellent rating with our city survey. And the other thing that's one of our most valuable tools is the street sweeper. When you look at our city streets that are really clean, with the exception of transition from winter to the spring. But you can tell when you go to other cities, you look at the curb and you look at the city streets. And that's where North Canton really shines, we're always just a nice clean city. The other is, I'd like to comment on also the comments on Mr. Saylor and the Dogwood City. I've never heard the Dogwood presented in that way. But it's a little and its tough and I love that analogy. So thank you for bringing that up. Because I think it does represent North Canton, we are a small city, but we are strong, resilient city. So thank you for those comments. And as far as the CRA and Mr. Osborne's comments and also Melanie and the others that we have here Ms. Baughman. Its, you know, when you look at it, we never want to give away, we don't want to give away tax dollars, but we do want to incentivize. And so the big question is whether you're looking at an occupancy grant or you're looking at the CRA, what truly is an incentive? What is an incentive to one property may not be an incentive to somebody else. But it's really up to the council and the administration to identify what is going to be an incentive. And one example is the CIC, back in a number of years ago, when the Hoover Company left, we took over \$400,000 and we put that up for the Gantry Cranes at Myers Control Power. We had a lot of critics saying "why would you take tax dollars and invest that with Myers Control Power". And Eric reported on that today, we've not only received the full amount back but that was the first anchor. That was the first anchor tenant. And IRG, Maple Street Commerce said "you're biggest challenge is going to be your first anchor tenant". And didn't we know that. And then from that point on, we had other businesses that signed up for leases. So it's really easy to criticize the CRA, the Community Reinvestment Area. And in some cases it's not warranted, it's just in my opinion. And in other cases, we desperately need it. Because we want people to improve their properties. Or as another comparison would be occupancy grants or CIC reinvestments. So I think they're great, great tools, but we just have to examine them on a case by case basis how we use them in the city. And then also Tobias, well spoke young man, very proud to have you here. You were put, you know, you weren't planning to speak, you weren't even planned to sit up but you are well composed and a very posed young man. Yeah, a true gentleman. And you're always welcome in our city, any time that you like. And then lastly, you know, I have an opportunity to go to these mayor conferences, not conferences but these meetings. So you get to talk to a lot of mayors that are speaking for the first time, or serving for the first time, and you know, you could just tell the weight of the responsibility that they have being a newly elected official. And you know, one of the things that I always tell them, is that people want a clean, safe city. And I said #2, it's all about the people, if you have good staff members that have a desire to serve other people that makes the difference. That is everything. It is all about the people. So with that Eric, Eric's been working with the city since Tom Rice was mayor and since I've been mayor and Eric has a tough job. Because it's his job to go out look at economic development opportunities, present them to the council. He's not the one that you know, is making the approvals. He's presenting this to the council and the administration. And after he puts in a lot of hours and a lot of work, then I criticize it, Mike Grimes criticize it, council criticize it. And we say "oh it's not personal Eric". But it is just the nature of his work. And you know, I always refer to Eric, he's like a human encyclopedia. I mean, he starts racking off you know, different terms and then you have to ask him it's like "well I don't know what the 1096 or the 64A, X, Z application". So you have to ask him to break it down, but it just demonstrates his knowledge that he has. And also he's just a good person. Friday night he's at my house dropping off a CIC packet at 8:00, entertaining my kids, entertaining the dogs. You know, then he still has to go back and do more office work. So I don't want to, and often times I just never get a chance to thank you for all the work you do, Eric. But since the subject came up, you certainly have my support and appreciation as well as Mike Grimes and as you know the council for the work that you're doing. So please keep up the good work. Jim, you too, I appreciate you too.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Mr. Engineer?

ENGINEER BENEKOS: Well, I don't know how to top that. I just have a few projects, just want to give you an update on projects we're wrapping up from last year, the Woodside project and Linwood waterline project. Linwood there's not a whole lot just some clean-up, a little bit of pavement repair to do on that. Woodside, they've started the curb replacement. They should be getting that done in the next couple of weeks and then paving the street. They should wrap that up shortly. The Charlotte Street improvements from Main to Orchard, I think will be starting the beginning of May. Its new curbs and rebuilding the street itself, the pavement there. Heatherwood waterline, Board of Control will be looking at that tonight to award that. That should also be starting in May. The Salway waterline project, we opened bids on that this Friday. And probably start construction on that in June. And then also we have the resurfacing. So we haven't put that out yet, if you have any streets last minutes streets,

ENGINEER BENEKOS: Right, yeah, I've got those. So yeah, as I get that list I'll send it out. But any others while you're out driving around that you'd like to add, let me know. Except for you, you've got enough. Just kidding.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: Do we have money for drain grates, because I'm starting to see drain grates. They're starting to work on them again, but we have a lot of those.

ENGINEER BENEKOS: Yeah, they're working on them. The streets that are on the resurfacing program, we replace those, we check those. Any other catch basins, Mike Battershell, street superintendent he has a separate program that he goes and replaces those. I've noticed he's already started that program and replacing some catch basins already. So if you have a specific catch basins.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: Just St. Paul's, someone just told me they almost drove in a hole in St. Paul's coming out of their parking lot. So I didn't get a chance to look at it yet. I just hear about it.

ENGINEER BENEKOS: The one last thing project that I wanted to make note of is on East Maple Street, its gas meeting, applications for grants are due June 3rd. So I'm planning to apply for a grant for East Maple Street for the sidewalks and the streetscape elements out at Walsh. Sidewalks going from Taft to all the way out to the university. I'll be looking at those over the next couple of weeks. I'd like to meet with Councilman Cerreta to see what your envision for those, anything you know, different than just replacing some sidewalks. And then extending some, putting some crosswalks in. Then out at the university where we talked about the center medians and street lights, decorative street lights and so forth out in that area. So with that, oh, Eric, I work with Eric every day, if you want the real scoop on Eric, I'll let you know. No, Eric's a great guy and a hard worker. So that's it for me, thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, sir. Madame Clerk?

COUNCIL CLERK BAILEY: Well, the only thing I have to say is I really don't have a report and I haven't for a couple of weeks. But I do just want to say I do enjoy working with Eric, I do. Sometimes I try to disguise my voice when I call him, but he knows its me. That's it.

15. Final Call for New Business:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, thank you very much. We're going to adjourn this meeting, but council don't get too comfortable we have an executive session. We're going to reconvene, but final call for new business? Anyone got anything else before I entertain a motion to adjourn.

16. Adjourn:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright is there a motion to adjourn?

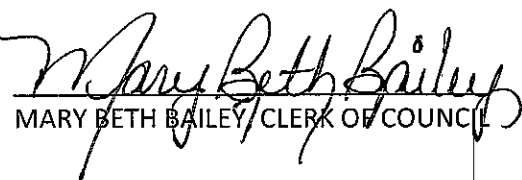
COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: So moved.

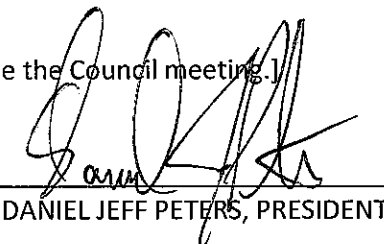
COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 6 yes to adjourn.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: We are adjourned.

[Let the record reflect Charles Osborne set up a tripod and appeared to videotape the Council meeting.]


MARY BETH BAILEY, CLERK OF COUNCIL


DANIEL JEFF PETERS, PRESIDENT